

Proceeding: R.20-11-003

Exhibit No.: SDGE-3

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**PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
REGARDING DEMAND RESPONSE PROPOSALS**



**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

January 11, 2021

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I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this testimony is to provide information regarding San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) proposed Emergency Load Shed Pilot (ELSP), as well as to offer new SDG&E proposals regarding demand response (DR) and to provide information requested by the Commission.

In the *Assigned Commissioner's Scoping Memo and Ruling* (Scoping Memo) issued in this proceeding on December 21, 2020, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) identified as a primary issue to be addressed in this proceeding the question of how to decrease demand during the peak demand and net demand peak hours in the summer of 2021. In particular, the Commission will seek to identify those actions that can be adopted by April 2021 and implemented before or during the summer of 2021.¹

The Scoping Memo includes within the scope of the proceeding several issue areas with the potential to "reduce demand during peak and net peak demand hours" where possible solutions to further the Commission's reliability objectives might be identified,² and invites proposals related to those topics. The Commission issued a separate ruling, the *Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Introducing a Staff Report and Questions to the Record and Seeking Responses from Parties in Opening and Reply Testimonies* on December 18, 2020 (ALJ Ruling),

¹ Scoping Memo, pp. 1-2.

² *Id.* p. 2.

1 which presents “guidance and questions for parties to address in developing their own proposals
2 due January 11, 2021.”³

3 **II. THE COMMISSION SHOULD ADOPT SDG&E’S PENDING PROPOSAL FOR**
4 **AN EMERGENCY LOAD SHED PILOT**

5 In response to the heat storm and subsequent electrical grid emergency that occurred in
6 August, 2020, SDG&E filed Advice Letter (AL) 3615-E⁴ seeking Commission approval to make
7 changes to SDG&E’s existing DR programs and to establish a new customer DR pilot, the ELSP,
8 designed to increase participation in the DR program. The proposals contained in AL 3615-E are
9 based upon SDG&E’s conclusion that: (1) new DR load could be shed in emergencies; and (2)
10 small changes to existing programs might yield incremental load shed in such events. SDG&E’s
11 AL 3615-E was filed shortly after the August, 2020 heat storm in order to respond to grid needs;
12 the Commission subsequently initiated the instant proceeding to address the very same issues.

13 The objectives underlying the proposals contained in SDG&E’s AL 3615-E are the same
14 as those underlying the instant rulemaking – to reduce demand during peak and net peak demand
15 hours. Accordingly, the Commission should expeditiously approve SDG&E’s AL 3615-E so
16 that the pilot program can be implemented before summer of 2021.

17 SDG&E does not support adoption of the Emergency Load Reduction Program (ELRP)
18 discussed in the ALJ Ruling for SDG&E’s service territory. Aspects of the ELRP are not viable
19 for SDG&E given its budgetary constraints and current limitations on its ability to implement
20 billing system changes. SDG&E notes, however, that it is willing to consider modifications to its
21 ELSP to better align with the other investor-owned utilities (IOUs). SDG&E discusses such

³ ALJ Ruling, Attachment 1, p. 1.

⁴ AL 3615-E, filed September 25, 2020, which can be found at:
<http://regarchive.sdge.com/tm2/pdf/3615-E.pdf>.

1 potential modifications below and responds to questions included in the ALJ Ruling regarding
2 proposals for emergency load reduction.

3 **A. SDG&E's Proposed ELSP**

4 Like the ELRP discussed in the ALJ Ruling, SDG&E's ELSP is an emergency DR
5 program that would offer an incentive payment to participating customers for verified load shed
6 during specific grid emergencies at the request of either the California Independent System
7 Operator (CAISO) or SDG&E. SDG&E requests that the Commission expeditiously approve
8 SDG&E's AL 3615-E in order to ensure that its ELSP can be implemented in time for summer
9 2021.

10 Currently the majority of SDG&E's largest commercial and industrial (C&I) customers
11 do not participate in DR programs for many reasons: fatigue from many called events, penalties
12 for non-performance, incentives deemed by the customer to be too low to be of interest, quick
13 event activation notification windows etc. The goal of SDG&E's ELSP is to test whether a pure
14 "pay for performance" DR program with no penalties and a higher incentive than current DR
15 programs, will motivate medium and larger C&I customers to participate in a DR program. The
16 ELSP will:

- 17 • Test the attractiveness of a program that has no penalties and is limited in scope to
18 grid emergencies;
- 19 • Test the impact of a higher incentive rate on customer program enrollment and
20 retention; and
- 21 • Test the ability of the customer to shed load upon SDG&E's request, for
22 emergency events; specifically, the amounts and types of load that will be shed.

1 Since the ELSP's incentive mechanism pays program participants only for verified load
2 drop, ratepayers are afforded cost protection.

3 To be eligible to participate in the ELSP, the customer must be a medium or large C&I
4 customer as defined in SDG&E's Electric Rule⁵ that agrees to shed a minimum of 100 kilowatt
5 (kW) per event. The 100 kW minimum load drop is necessary since a smaller kW amount would
6 create significant administration burden given that most program management during the early
7 stages of the pilot, including settlement calculations, will be managed through a manual process
8 outside of SDG&E's current Customer Information System (CIS). SDG&E is currently in the
9 midst of a "freeze" period for its new CIS, which is expected to go live in April 2021, followed
10 by a 6-9 month stabilization period. The implementation timeline includes a "freeze" period for
11 changes to SDG&E's legacy CIS system during 2020 and 2021 to reduce the overall risks and
12 customer impacts during the transition to the new system. The "freeze" period requires that any
13 new structural rate changes or other similar initiatives be deferred to permit the transition from
14 the legacy CIS to the new system.

15 The ELSP would not be available to or through Third Party Aggregators or Demand
16 Response Providers (DRPs) due to these same CIS system limitations. However, based upon
17 discussions with the other IOUs, third parties and Energy Division staff, SDG&E would consider
18 modification of its ELSP, as proposed, to permit limited dual participation. Specifically,
19 SDG&E would consider allowing limited dual participation in its ELSP by customers of record
20 who are enrolled in SDG&E's Base Interruptible Program (BIP), Capacity Bidding Program
21 (CBP), or SDG&E's C&I rates that include a DR component such as Critical Peak Pricing (CPP-

⁵ SDG&E Electric Rule 1 - http://regarchive.sdge.com/tm2/pdf/ELEC_ELEC-RULES_ERULE1.pdf.

1 D). To implement this change to the ELSP, SDG&E would seek to amend the program once
2 AL 3615-E is approved by the Commission.

3 SDG&E proposes in AL 3615-E that the ELSP be adopted as a pilot program for 2021
4 and 2022. It proposes that costs be tracked in SDG&E's Advanced Meter and DR Memorandum
5 Account (AMDRMA), similar to other DR programs. Costs will be recovered through SDG&E's
6 Rewards and Penalties Balancing Account.

7 **B. Responses to Questions in ALJ Proposal Related**

8 SDG&E offers the following responses to the questions included in the ALJ Ruling.⁶
9 While the questions in the ALJ Ruling focus on the ELRP, SDG&E's responses relate to its
10 proposed ELSP.

11 **1. Program Trigger. CAISO suggests “the dispatch trigger [for ELRP] 12 could be a Warning or Stage 1 emergency or its equivalent.” What is 13 the case for or against limiting the trigger to CAISO-declared 14 Warning/Emergency stage vs. extending the trigger discretion to 15 Alerts or day-ahead?**

16 SDG&E proposes that the ELSP be called for system emergencies (CAISO alerts and
17 stages), transmission emergencies (loss of resources), and local transmission and distribution
18 system (overload) emergencies at SDG&E's discretion. SDG&E suggests that the ELSP be
19 called not via a Flex Alert, but by a more formal declaration of a CAISO Stage 1, 2, or 3 Alert or
20 Warning as all of these indicate more criticality by CAISO to the needs of the grid. However,
21 the ELSP could be called by the CAISO at any time for any reason either Day Of or Day Ahead
22 based on imminent or immediate grid conditions without issuing an Alert or Stage. SDG&E
23 would consider either a CAISO issued Flex Alert or CAISO issued Warning as a precursor to a
24 potential event being called. Additionally, as mentioned above and in AL 3615-E, SDG&E also

⁶ ALJ Ruling, Attachment 1, p. 5. Numbering corresponds to the numbering in the ALJ Ruling.

requests the discretion to call or activate the ELSP for local emergencies or conditions as needed outside of a CAISO called emergency.

1.a. Should the ELRP be allowed or required to dispatch before the Base Interruptible Program (BIP) is triggered? If yes, under what circumstances should this be allowed? Are there any other conditions that should be met before ELRP could be dispatched?

Since SDG&E's ELSP is an emergency pilot, it should be triggered as needed by either the CAISO or SDG&E without any other restrictions.

1.b. Should the IOUs be allowed to trigger ELRP for localized transmission and distribution emergencies? Why or why not?

Yes. SDG&E should be permitted to trigger its ELSP for a local transmission or distribution emergency. There could be local emergency situations where SDG&E can, and must, react more quickly than the CAISO. In such an event, and where there is a potential impact on the CAISO-controlled transmission system, SDG&E will notify the CAISO as quickly as practicable. SDG&E has a shared responsibility for grid reliability; the unilateral ability to trigger the ELSP is a helpful tool.

2. Eligibility - Load Reduction Resources:

i. Should customers who are already enrolled in IOU (directly or via aggregators) or third-party demand response programs or critical peak pricing be permitted to participate in the ELRP? If so, what specific program rules will be needed to ensure that dual participants are not compensated twice for the same load reductions? If there are distinctions in the rules depending on the DR program or rate, please describe. Please provide an estimate of potential MWs available for each dual participation permutation.

As discussed in AL 3615-E, the ELSP would be available only to customers that are not currently enrolled in an SDG&E DR program or on a rate with a DR component. At this time, neither residential nor third parties would be eligible to participate in the ELSP due SDG&E's current CIS system constraints.

1 As noted above, SDG&E is willing to consider changes to its originally - proposed ELSP
2 to permit participation by SDG&E's C&I customers that are participating in a SDG&E DR
3 program or rate, so long as those customers meet the minimum load shed requirement of 100
4 kW. Allowing third parties to participate in the ELSP is not feasible until SDG&E's billing
5 system limitations are alleviated.

6 If the Commission approves limited dual participation, such customers should be allowed
7 to participate only in instances where the DR program or rate with a DR component they are on
8 has not been awarded by the CAISO or activated by SDG&E, as applicable. This is necessary to
9 avoid the possibility of double payment. With programs that are not activated due to tariff
10 restrictions, dual participation customers would be able to participate outside those programs
11 subject to the 100 kW minimum load drop set forth in the proposed ELSP. As an example,
12 SDG&E's CBP is not available on weekends or holidays per the approved Tariff. Customers
13 participating in the CBP could participate in the ELSP on weekends and holidays subject to the
14 minimum 100 kW load drop requirement. This would eliminate the possibility of double
15 payments even though the customer is participating in both a DR program or rate and the ELSP
16 at the same time. In other words, an existing DR Program activation, would be primary and the
17 ELSP activation would be considered secondary for settlement and payment purposes.

18 Based on observable summer 2020 voluntary load shed, SDG&E estimates that its
19 proposed ELSP could provide between 25 megawatt (MW) - 75 MW of incremental load drop
20 per event.

1 **ii. What rules and processes need to be in place to ensure that the**
2 **load reductions expected from dual participants are**
3 **appropriately accounted for and communicated to CAISO for**
4 **grid operations?**

5 If dual participation is permitted, an additional level of review and verification would
6 need to be added to the current procedures for reviewing customers participating in an ELSP
7 event to ensure that they are eligible and have not already been awarded for another DR program
8 or received benefits pursuant to another rate with a DR component. As discussed above, if a
9 customer is participating in an existing DR program, then that existing DR program's activation
10 would be considered primary and the ELSP activation would be considered secondary for
11 settlement and payment purposes. This will prevent double payments to the same customer for
12 the same load shed.

13 For informational purposes, SDG&E will notify the CAISO of each SDG&E activation
14 of the ELSP as soon as practicable.

15 **iii. Should customers be permitted to use prohibited resources**
16 **during an ELRP event to achieve incremental load reduction**
17 **in excess of any load reduction commitments under other dual**
18 **enrolled DR programs?**

19 ELSP events will be called only in emergency situations. While backup generators
20 (BUGS) are prohibited resources in other circumstances, SDG&E believes that it is reasonable to
21 allow BUGS to operate during an ELSP event to help respond to the emergency. This approach
22 is consistent with the exemptions allowing use of such prohibited resources issued by both the
23 Commission and the Governor of California during the August 2020 heat storm.
24

1 **3. Program Administration and Implementation.**

2 **a. Should the IOU's establish a voluntary tariff program that**
3 **could be open for new customer enrollment in advance of**
4 **summer 2021?**

5 Yes. SDG&E respectfully requests that the Commission approve its AL 3615-E, which
6 will enable SDG&E to implement its proposed ELSP in advance of summer 2021. If SDG&E is
7 instead ordered to implement the ELRP discussed in the ALJ Ruling or to maintain its ELSP for
8 a five-year period rather than the period contemplated in AL 3615-E (*i.e.*, through 2022), it
9 would require significant additional funding through its Rewards and Penalties Balancing
10 Account in order to cover incentives, IT expenses, settlement expense and administrative costs.
11 The funding required to implement the ELSP (or the ELSR) is separate from SDG&E's existing
12 2018 - 2022 approved DR funding cycle and is outside of the yet-to-be-filed 2023 - 2027 DR
13 funding application.

14 The ELSP program budget proposed in AL 3615-E assumes no more than five events per
15 year with a cap of 100 MW per event through the end of 2022. If the program is expanded
16 beyond SDG&E's original ELSP proposal, SDG&E would seek Commission approval for
17 additional funding for the ELSP covering the five years of the pilot (2021 through 2025),
18 estimated to be \$21,050,000. The expanded budget was calculated based on an estimated
19 maximum of 100 MWs of load shed that provides 400 MWh of load shed per event, and a
20 maximum of 10 ELSP events per season. This funding amount would be required to cover
21 incentives, IT expenses, settlements, and administrative costs. While SDG&E does not know the
22 exact amount of MWh load reduction that would be achieved, it has estimated at the higher end
23 in anticipation of robust customer participation. SDG&E collects actual expenses in arrears,
24 which helps to protect ratepayers, since it limits cost recovery to only what is spent.

An estimated budget breakdown per year based on the above inputs, and assuming SDG&E's proposed ELSP is extended to cover five years, is shown in Table 1 below:

TABLE 1

Budget	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Incentives	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 15,000,000
Administration including IT, E&MV and ME&O	\$ 370,000	\$ 370,000	\$ 2,770,000	\$ 1,270,000	\$ 1,270,000	\$ 6,050,000
Total	\$ 3,370,000	\$ 3,370,000	\$ 5,770,000	\$ 4,270,000	\$ 4,270,000	\$ 21,050,000

4. What should be the specified “pay for performance” compensation rate(s) (\$/MWh) for load reduction or energy supply achieved by participants during an ELRP dispatch?

SDG&E proposed in its AL 3615-E that participating customers receive a payment for each event called to which they responded, and for every hour of verified load drop (kWh), multiplied by the incentive amount. Customers who enroll and participate in the ELSP shall be paid a maximum energy reduction payment rate of \$0.75 per kWh of verified actual energy reduction up to their nominated load shed. The payment will be calculated based on the customer's actual verified load reduction as calculated by SDG&E after the event. Payments to customers participating in the ELSP who drop load will be paid by check by SDG&E within 90 days after the event.

SDG&E's proposed compensation rate is calculated based on a percentage of the CAISO's Locational Marginal Price (LMP) for SDG&E's CAISO-defined Sublap. As part of its process for determining the appropriate incentive, SDG&E solicited input from customers to gain a better understanding of what level of incentive would increase program participation.

1 **III. CHANGES TO EXISTING IOU DR PROGRAMS**

2 **A. Base Interruptible Program (Questions 1-3)**

3 SDG&E continues to seek to deliver the most effective strategies to attract and retain
4 participants in the BIP, while preserving or improving BIP's contribution to the grid. SDG&E
5 has offered proposals in its AL 3522-E and AL 3615-E (both are currently pending before the
6 Commission) that, if approved, would provide additional opportunities for customers to
7 participate in BIP and help with adding additional MW for summer of 2021, thereby achieving
8 the objectives of the OIR. Specifically, AL 3615-E proposes to: (1) waive the current 100 kW
9 minimum requirement for participation in BIP; and (2) open BIP to all non-residential
10 customers.⁷ AL 3522-E proposes to update the measuring hours for customers' "monthly
11 average peak demand" to align the measuring hours for customers with "availability assessment
12 hours" on which BIP's performance is measured. SDG&E respectfully requests that the
13 Commission expeditiously approve both Advice Letters.

14 The current BIP tariff allows direct participation in the program for Customers who can
15 commit to reducing at least 15% of their Monthly Average Peak Demand and at least 100 kW of
16 load drop when a demand response event occurs. This latter requirement creates an obstacle to
17 participation; in SDG&E's territory, the pool of qualifying BIP direct customers is very small
18 due to the 100 kW load drop requirement. If SDG&E's pending ALs are approved, the number
19 of eligible customers would increase, and this would bring additional load shed during events.
20 SDG&E also has significant room under its 2% BIP cap to add customers who are in the less-
21 than-100kW pool of potential new customers and will market the program directly to them. The

⁷ AL 3615-E, submitted September 25, 2020, p. 5.

1 changes proposed in SDG&E's pending ALs can be implemented quickly within the existing
2 budgets for summer 2021.

3 **B. Capacity Bidding Program (CBP) (Questions 4 and 5)**

4 In accordance with the direction set forth in the ALJ Ruling,⁸ SDG&E offers these
5 comments in response to the questions included therein. Numbering reflects the ALJ Ruling's
6 question numbers.

7 **4. What would be the most effective ways to attract and retain CBP**
8 **participants, while preserving or improving the program's**
9 **contribution to grid reliability? Potential actions include increasing**
10 **capacity incentives, reducing penalties for underperformance, or**
11 **limiting the number of allowed events per a month or year.**
12

13 SDG&E has proposed changes in its AL 3522-E and AL 3615-E that, if approved, would
14 provide additional opportunities for customers to participate in the CBP Program and thereby
15 further the objectives of the OIR. In AL 3615-E, SDG&E proposes to: (1) increase the CBP
16 maximum number of events from six to nine per month; (2) increase August through October
17 capacity incentives for the CBP Day-Of 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. product; and (3) suspend the current
18 dual participation restrictions. AL 3522-E, SDG&E proposes to: (1) align notification time with
19 the other IOUs to be 5:00 p.m. for the CBP Day-Ahead product; (2) update CBP Day-Of product
20 notification time to 40 minutes to allow SDG&E to bid into the CAISO Day Of market; and (3)
21 launch the CBP Residential CBP Pilot in 2021.

22 SDG&E submits that these proposed modifications offer effective ways to attract and
23 retain CBP participants, and be implemented quickly with no additional CBP budget required,
24 while preserving or improving the program's contribution to grid reliability. Accordingly,
25 SDG&E respectfully requests that the Commission approve these two ALs.

⁸ ALJ Ruling, p. 7 ("Parties are encouraged to address the following questions related to CBP . . .").

1 While SDG&E does not propose any additional CBP program modifications in this
2 proceeding, it notes that any additional CBP requirements established by the Commission
3 through this proceeding could be implemented by SDG&E after the Commission approves its
4 pending ALs.

5 **5. For party proposals, please describe the proposed program**
6 **modifications, including quantifying parameters where appropriate,**
7 **and provide the rationale. Please provide an estimate for additional**
8 **MWs that could result from the changes. Similarly, if you oppose any**
9 **of these changes, please explain why.**

10 As discussed above, SDG&E has offered proposals in AL 3522-E and AL 3615-E
11 designed to increase participation in the CBP Program.

12 **C. Proposals related to Air Conditioner Cycling Programs and Smart**
13 **Thermostats (Questions 6-9)**

14 SDG&E has proposed solutions in its AL 3522-E and AL 3615-E that, if approved,
15 would provide additional opportunities for customers to participate in SDG&E's smart air
16 conditioner cycling program, the AC Saver program. Specifically, SDG&E proposes in AL
17 3522-E to make residential net energy metering (NEM) customers eligible for the AC saver
18 program. It proposes in AL 3615-E to change the maximum number of events from 20 to 25
19 with the additional 5 events reserved for CAISO or SDG&E emergencies. SDG&E respectfully
20 requests that the Commission approve these two pending ALs.

21 In addition, to approving the changes proposed in SDG&E pending ALs, the Commission
22 should approve in the context of this rulemaking the following new proposed changes to
23 SDG&E's AC Saver program and its Technology Deployment program:

- 24 1) Increase the AC Saver Day Ahead program's annual participation payment from
25 \$20 per year to \$40 per year. This program is SDG&E's AC thermostat control
26 program that pays an annual incentive for participation.

- 1 2) Increase the Technology Deployment (TD) program incentive from \$50 to \$100
2 per thermostat. The TD program provides an incentive to customers who
3 purchase a smart thermostat and register and join a DR Program.
- 4 3) Establish and incentive and grant authorization to pursue emergency agreements
5 with device manufacturers who already have devices participating in the AC saver
6 program to signal existing installed thermostats that are not in an existing DR
7 program to secure additional load shed

8 These proposals are discussed further below in the responses to the questions posed in the
9 ALJ Ruling.

10 **6. Should incentives for residential air conditioner cycling be increased**
11 **to limit attrition or increase enrollment? If so, please provide the**
12 **recommended incentive amount and the aggregate budget and**
13 **capacity impacts of the increase. If not, please explain why.**

- 14 • AC Saver Day Ahead Program Incentive Increase: As noted above, SDG&E
15 proposes to increase the annual incentive for the AC Saver day-ahead thermostat
16 option from should \$20 per year to \$40 per year. The annual incentive for the AC
17 Saver day-of switch option should remain the same.

18 SDG&E submits that increasing the AC Saver day-ahead thermostat
19 annual incentive from \$20 to \$40 will increase enrollment and improve retention.
20 SDG&E estimates that the additional cost to make this change for both 2021 and
21 2022 would be between \$900,000 and \$1,200,000. SDG&E proposes to cover the
22 cost of the increase in the incentive by using unspent 2018-2020 incentives from
23 Category 1. The Commission permits the IOUs to fund-shift between programs

1 in the same category with appropriate monthly reporting.⁹ SDG&E anticipates
2 that this proposed incentive increase, combined with the proposed increase in the
3 upfront TD thermostat incentive discussed below, will add between 1,500 and
4 5,000 incremental thermostats to the program per year, which equates to an
5 additional 0.6 to 2.0 MW of available load drop per year.

- 6 • TD Program Incentive Increase: Under SDG&E's "bring your own thermostat"
7 (BYOT) model, customers buy and install approved thermostats themselves and
8 then receive a TD incentive for enrolling the thermostat in an approved DR
9 program such as SDG&E's AC Saver program, the demand response auction
10 mechanism (DRAM) or a rate with a DR events component. SDG&E proposes
11 herein to raise the technology deployment incentive from \$100 per kW to \$200
12 per kW to encourage additional enrollment – this will result in a change to the
13 thermostat incentive from \$50 to \$100 per thermostat. SDG&E believes that this
14 changes, paired with allowing residential NEM customers to join AC Saver, as
15 requested in AL 3522-E, would increase participation and able to be funded out of
16 existing funding for 2021 and 2022 as well as unspent approved 2018-2020 AC
17 Saver incentives. This proposal will require a budget of approximately
18 \$1,200,000. SDG&E estimates that the capacity impact would be 4 MW.
- 19 • Authorization to Pursue Emergency Agreements with Device Manufacturers:
20 Some manufacturers of devices participating in programs may have the ability to
21 dispatch additional customers who are not enrolled in an SDG&E or other third-
22 party DR program in extreme situations such as a CAISO stage 2 or stage 3 alert

⁹ D.17-12-003, p. 134.

1 or a SDG&E local emergency. SDG&E requests CPUC authorization to pursue
2 emergency agreements with manufacturers willing to dispatch additional
3 customers without formal enrollment of the individual participating customers in
4 a DR program.

5 The emergency agreements would include incentive payments to
6 manufacturers who can provide this type of additional load reduction. Payments
7 to manufacturers will be required to be far below CBP incentive amounts in order
8 to avoid any potential cannibalization of existing aggregator programs and will be
9 required to be paid out of existing approved Category 1 administrative budgets to
10 limit spending. No incentives would be to individual customers under this option.

11 In addition, this option will only be available to manufacturers with
12 devices participating in the SDG&E AC Saver program who have demonstrated
13 that they can effectively provide load reduction during an emergency. This
14 limitation is necessary because SDG&E may be unable to independently verify
15 the load reduction using meter data based on emergency agreements alone due to
16 the lack of formal enrollment of the individual customers. However, SDG&E will
17 require participating device manufacturers to provide aggregated device data
18 which demonstrates that a load reduction occurred. SDG&E will also require that
19 the manufacturer provide device serial numbers or other data as needed to ensure
20 that no customers who are already participating in another DR program in
21 SDG&E's territory are dispatched as part of the emergency agreement.

22 This proposal has the potential to quickly increase the load reduction
23 available to SDG&E during emergencies without the additional IT and

1 administrative costs associated with managing and tracking individual customer
2 enrollments and payments. Individual program enrollments are necessary in order
3 to verify load reduction and avoid dual participation, however SDG&E contends
4 that these goals can be achieved by device data provided such that participation is
5 limited to manufacturers already approved and providing a verified load reduction
6 in the AC Saver program.

7 Quantifying budget and capacity impacts requires additional information
8 regarding the appropriate level of incentives and likely participation, which will
9 be derived through negotiation with device manufacturers. Accordingly, the
10 budget and capacity impacts are unknown at this time.

11 **7. Explain how the deployment of smart thermostats will be integrated**
12 **with existing IOU or third-party demand response programs and/or**
13 **critical peak pricing rates and specify the customer segments that will**
14 **be targeted.**

15 SDG&E currently offers a BYOT program, whereby customers may purchase their own
16 thermostat and receive an incentive through SDG&E's TD program for enrolling the thermostat
17 in a demand response program.¹⁰ To qualify for the incentive, a customer must enroll in either
18 SDG&E's AC Saver program, a rate with DR events, or DRAM. SDG&E's proposal to raise the
19 TD program incentive from \$100 per kW to \$200 per kW (*i.e.*, increasing the incentive from \$50
20 to \$100 per thermostat) would encourage additional enrollment and would incentivize more
21 customers to buy new devices and register for a DR program of their choice, which would result
22 in new thermostats integrating across many different SDG&E and Third-Party DR Programs.

¹⁰ www.sdge.com/thermostat.

SDG&E would focus its efforts on increasing participation by adding residential NEM customers in SDG&E's AC Saver Thermostat program. In addition, SDG&E would target customers who receive advertising through thermostat applications (or "apps") and websites provided by thermostat manufacturers. SDG&E also uses website advertisements and social media to drive customers to its DR website and these methods will reach additional customers interested in any of the program options.

SDG&E does not foresee targeting customers on rates with events since the vast majority of customers enrolled on rates with events are commercial. To date, commercial enrollments under the BYOT model have been far lower than residential enrollments. SDG&E also does not plan to target current or potential DRAM participants; doing so would be inappropriate given that third parties are responsible for their own DRAM marketing to potential DRAM participants.

8. Provide the number of smart thermostats that could be deployed in time for summer 2021, the amount of the rebate, the total budget, and the method of cost recovery. Provide an explanation for the rebate amount.

SDG&E estimates that the increase of the TD thermostat incentive from \$50 to \$100 combined with the increase AC Saver incentive could bring in between 1,500 and 5,000 additional or new thermostats by summer of 2021. If the increase in the TD incentive from \$50 to \$100 is put in place for both 2021 and 2022, using a high-end estimate of 10,000 new customers for the two-year period and the incremental \$50/unit incentive cost results in an increase of \$500,000 per year. SDG&E proposes to cover these costs using existing incentive budgets in Category 4 Enabling Technology programs.

1 **9. Estimate the additional amount of MWs that could be reasonably**
2 **anticipated from the proposal. Please explain how the estimate was**
3 **calculated.**
4

5 Based on the average preliminary 2020 *ex post* results for the August 2020 heat storm
6 event, the AC saver residential program provides a 0.4 kW load reduction per customer.
7 SDG&E estimates that an additional 1,500-5,000 customers per year could be enrolled per year
8 with the higher incentives, which would result in an estimated additional load impact of between
9 0.6MW to 2.0 MW per year.

10 **D. Additional Information Requested in ALJ Ruling (Questions 10-13)**

11 **10. For PDR resources that are procured for Resource Adequacy (IOU,**
12 **DRAM and third-party non-DRAM PDR resources) and are able to**
13 **dispatch only in response to CAISO Day-Ahead Market awards,**
14 **should the CPUC adopt a bid price cap for these resources bidding in**
15 **the CAISO Day-Ahead market for the purpose of increasing the**
16 **probability of these resources being utilized and dispatched during**
17 **periods of grid stress experienced in Real-Time Market? If so, what**
18 **should that bid price cap be set at and why?**

19 No, the Commission should not adopt a price cap for such Proxy Demand Response
20 (PDR) . Please see response to Question 11 below.

21 **11. What are the potential positive and negative consequences of the Day-**
22 **Ahead market bid price cap?**

23 Imposing a bid price cap will not increase, and may ultimately reduce, the amount of
24 PDR resources that are made available for Resource Adequacy (RA) procurement. If the bid
25 price cap would require that a PDR resource make its capacity available at a price that is less
26 than the opportunity costs that the PDR resource expects to incur in order to make its capacity
27 available, it will simply decline to offer any RA capacity for procurement. It is not economically
28 efficient to impose rules that could require resources to operate at a loss.
29

12. Based on preliminary settlement data received by the CPUC, demand response resources (IOU and third-party operated) did not always deliver up to their commitments during the 2020 heat waves. This information will be made public in the Final Root Cause Analysis on the August 14 and 15 rotating outages that is anticipated to issue before end of 2020. Please provide: a. reasons for the results and b. solutions that address the reasons you provide.

SDG&E addresses its own IOU-DR performance below. SDG&E does not provide an explanation for why third party-operated DR resources, such as DRAM, did not perform up to commitments, but reserves the right to comment on the explanations provided by other parties.

a. Reason for results: SDG&E's demand response programs as a whole performed in line with its RA commitments on August 14, when it received CAISO awards. Table 2 below shows that the average load reduction from all the programs dispatched on 8/14/20 was 13.4 MW, which is 96% of the RA commitment of 14 MW.

TABLE 2

Date	Program	Even Time	August RA allocation (Mw)	Average Load Reduction (MW)
8/14/2020	BIP (1)	6:00pm-8:00pm	0.9	0.0
8/14/2020	AC Saver DA Commercial (thermostats)	5:00pm-9:00pm	0.9	0.4
8/14/2020	AC Saver DA Residential (thermostats)	5:00pm-9:00pm	6.6	5.3
8/14/2020	CBP-DA 1pm-9pm	5:00pm-9:00pm	0.1	0.4
8/14/2020	CBP-DA 11am-7pm	3:00pm-7:00pm	0.2	0.2
8/14/2020	AC Saver DO (Summer Saver)	5:00pm-9:00pm	2.2	4.0
8/14/2020	CBP-DO 1pm-9pm	5:00pm-9:00pm	2.5	2.3
8/14/2020	CBP-DO 11am-7pm	3:00pm-7:00pm	0.7	0.8
	Total		14.0	13.4

(1) Customers enrolled in BIP were shut down for the weekend.

However, some individual programs did not meet commitments. The SDG&E BIP program did not perform well because the small number customers enrolled on the program have already shut down for the weekend and had no load to shed at those times.

1 b. Solutions: SDG&E is addressing this by attempting to recruit customers who are open
2 during later hours of the program. SDG&E also proposed in AL 3615-E to change the time
3 period used to calculate the BIP capacity incentive from 1:00- 6:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to 9:00
4 p.m., which will also encourage customer who can reduce load between 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
5 to enroll. The AC Saver day-ahead thermostat program impacts also dropped in later hours. AC
6 Saver load impacts from 7:00-9:00 p.m. are still generally lower than the impacts from 4:00-7:00
7 p.m. so results for an event that occurs from 6:00-8:00 p.m. or 7:00-9:00 p.m. will not always be
8 as high as the forecast average load impact from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

9 SDG&E may provide additional comments on this topic once it has had the opportunity
10 to review the Final Root Cause Analysis Report.

11 **13. IOU DR programs are required to demonstrate cost-effectiveness**
12 **using the methods described in the Demand Response Cost-**
13 **Effectiveness Protocols. Considering the acute reliability needs being**
14 **considered in this proceeding, should the CPUC waive cost-**
15 **effectiveness analyses and requirements for any DR program changes**
16 **that might be ordered in this proceeding? Please provide a rationale**
17 **for your position.**

18 In general, and as a matter of sound policy, SDG&E believes that cost-effectiveness
19 should be taken into account when considering any program changes in order to protect
20 ratepayers. While SDG&E did not submit a cost-effectiveness analysis with its AL 3615-E, it
21 submits that this is reasonable for two reasons. First, it is generally not necessary to demonstrate
22 that pilot programs are cost-effective while they are being tested and then considered for longer
23 term utilization. Second, the small changes SDG&E proposed therein for its existing programs
24 would serve only to *increase* the cost-effectiveness of the programs in question by increasing
25 their MW potential (by adding events and lowering barriers to potentially increasing enrollment)
26 without additional budget being sought. There was not a risk of a lower cost-effectiveness
27 analysis in that case.

1 **VI. CONCLUSION**

2 This concludes SDG&E's prepared direct testimony.
3

1 **BRADFORD MANTZ – STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

2 My name is E Bradford Mantz. My business address is 8335 Century Park Court, San
3 Diego, California 92123. I am employed by SDG&E as the Demand Response and
4 Segmentation Manager for Customer Programs. My responsibilities include the design,
5 implementation and management of demand response programs for SDG&E. I have held
6 various roles at SDG&E since joining SDG&E in 2010.

7 I graduated from University of Texas, Austin with a Bachelor of Arts in Business
8 Administration with emphasis in Marketing and Petroleum Land Management and a minor in
9 Geology.

10 I have testified previously before the California Public Utilities Commission.
11
12